STENOGRAPHIC TRANSCRIPT

P U B L I C H E A R I N G

RE: MEDICAL CENTER URBAN RENEWAL PROJECT AREA

BOOK No. 4.

(Newark City Hall, Thursday, June 15th, 1967)

WINARD & WINARD
24 COMMERCE ST.
NEWARK 2, N.J.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
COUNTY OF ESSEX
NEWARK CITY HALL

IN THE MATTER OF THE PUBLIC HEARING OF :

MEDICAL CENTER URBAN RENEWAL PROJECT AREA : JUNE 15, 1967

PROJECT N.J. R-196 :

MEMBERS OF THE PLANNING BOARD:

ALFRED C. BOOKER, Chairman (Not Present)

JOSEPH A. COCUZZA, Acting Chairman

JOSEPH A. BRADLEY

MATTHEW D'ALESSIO

HARRY G. M C DOWELL, Director of Finance

VINCENT CORRADO

ALDO GIACCHINO: Board Secretary

HOWARD A. RAPPAPORT
Certified Shorthand Reporter

INDEX TO SPEAKERS

	Page
Colonel Hassan Jery Ahmed	3
Norman Cogman	3
Jesse Allen	26
Andrew Washington	52
Carl J. Kaditus	87
Ursaleen Scott	97

MR. COCUZZA: Good evening, Ladies and Gentlemen. We now resume the public hearing regarding the blight, the area to be considered under blight as indicated in a previous correspondence and presentations by the Housing Authority and the Map indicated at the railing. The only subject matter under discussion and consideration is whether the area in question is blighted or it is not blighted. That is the only topic under consideration.

The Chair declares a quorum exists and asks the Secretary to please call the roll.

(The roll call is taken by the Secretary.)

MR. COCUZZA: The Board has considered the reasonableness of the amount of time to be allotted to each speaker, in view of the large number of speakers present at all of the hearings and has unanimously concluded that thirty minutes for presentation and ten minutes for summation is am amply reasonable time to give to each speaker. No-one is to speak for more than one forty-minute period. The first speaker this evening is Mrs. Todd. Is Mrs. Todd present?

(No response.)

MR. COCUZZA: We will hold the card until she does appear to make her presentation.

Do you wish to make a presentation?

COLONEL HASSAN: My name is Colonel Hassan Jeru Ahmed. I live at 106 South Orange Avenue.

To save time in the calling of the names of the people that are not here and we do expect them, as I am sure you are aware, we would like to proceed with the speakers that are here.

MR. COCUZZA: Could you talk louder?

COLONEL HASSAN: Because of the fact that many of the people have not arrived, we would like to proceed with the people that are here to facilitate the Board in finishing.

MR. COCUZZA: That is perfectly satisfactory.

COLONEL HASSAN: If you would permit me, Mr. Chairman, to handle the people that are going to speak that are here at this point--

MR. COCUZZA: If you will give us the names through our Secretary, in the meantime, I shall ask those present who wish to make a presentation who have not already spoken.

COLONEL HASSAN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Norman Cogman.

MR. COCUZZA: It is now, Mr. Cogman, ten minutes after seven. Please proceed.

MR. COGMAN: Mr. Chairman, are you or are

you not aware of the fact that the bulldozers that tear up and corrupt the blighted area, the urban renewal area of this city is a political white power structure acting against the Negro political structure in our city? Furthermore, Mr. Martin Anderson, who is a friend of mine from Washington, D. C., wrote a book and the book is entitled, "Bulldozers," and he quotes that every time that an urban renewal project is torn up in a Negro neighborhood, it destructs, destroys the Negro power structure. I say to you here tonight if a Medical School is just, then we are to have it. But I don't see in my sight where the Medical School is just in the Central Ward because we need fair housing. We need more and adequate education. We need more schools and better schools. We need more qualified teachers in the area.

If the Medical School, I say here tonight, was to benefit the black people in the Central Ward, then I feel we ought to have it. But, I have found out for myself that it will benefit no-one but foreign students, students from Madison, Montclair, the high-class, people who can afford to go to this school. I say to

you, Mr. Chairman, that this is not a fair thing to do, to impose upon the Negro in the Central Ward. If this administration means any good to the Negro community, which Hugh J. Addonizio proclaims, then they will build adequate housing, then they would build adequate schools for the Negro in this community. I also say to you that I once tried to buy a house in the Vailsburg section and I was told by someone here in the City Hall or the person was told who wanted to sell it, that you can't sell it to a Negro. We don't want any Negroes in the Vailsburg section.

I know of another case where we tried to elevate, to make an elevated three-family house in the Vailsburg section, and it was also told that we cannot elevate a three-family house in the Vailsburg section. There are only one-family houses in the Vailsburg section.

If this City carries on such practices as it does, then what do you expect of the Negro to do? I want to say to you that Mr. Muhammed has one phrase that I often like, he says a white man's heaven is a black man's hell, and he is not lying at all.

James Baldwin also says I lived in the ghetto all my life. I achieved and struggled. It's hard to become a man of human dignity, but what has a white man or what can a white man give me that I can go on to achieve the master goals of life? And this is what we are talking about. What are you going to give the Negro so he can go along and to achieve his master goals of life. Areyou going to give him fair housing? Are you going to give him adequate education? Or, are you just going to say, well, he's another dumb nigger, we don't need him nohow, forget it.

I think that it is a disgrace that this City, with fifty-five percent hasn't been represented fairly and squarely, hasn't been called in on the carpet and says now, look, this is what's going to be done and see if we object to this Medical site, see what our program is.

But I feel as though Martin Anderson felt when he was--when he says bulldozers mean to destroy the Negro community. It means to put the Negro in a smaller ghetto. It means to back the Negro in so he can lose the political power structure. It means that the Negro doesn't

need health and education. It means that the Negro must also and shall always live in the ghettos of our city.

I say to you, Mr. Chairman, don't be a fool. Be wise, be smart. Let's don't create a problem that gets out of control where you nor the police department of our city can handle and you know what I'm talking about. Let's go about this as dignified men with ability to understand and have some fair responsibility towards the people of this city.

I also want to point out to you, Mr. Chairman, that it is important that we the people of the city of Newark who are fifty-five percent of the population must and shall be called in on anything that involves the Negro power structure in our city.

Mr. Chairman, as I have known for thirty years, and that is all my life, born, raised in the City of Newark, lived in the ghetto, lived on Lemon Street, lived on Jones Street, lived on Broome Street, lived on Rector Street in the City of Newark and this is a ghetto. What has Lou Danzig done? He has created a big monster. He has created a bigger ghetto because he built

thirteen-story high projects which Martin Anderson called the ghetto again. That is torn up, ripped up, destroyed by people who live in the area because of what. These projects are too high. They got to climb thirteen floors; the mailboxes are torn out; there is inadequate police protection over there. This is not what you call housing for decent human people. This is what you call housing for monsters. I want to say that if you mean good here tonight, you will see that the Negro needs fair housing, adequate housing, no more than two or three stories high.

In the one hundred fifty acres or one hundred sixty-six acres, excuse me, because it is no longer one hundred fifty acres, it is one hundred sixty-six acres, should be built modern housing. Schools should be built in the area so that the Negro can go to school with dignity, education, learning, learning something that he never learned before. Learning how to be a man, have some respect and pride of the city in which he lives, but how can you expect this when we do nothing about it but sit here and say to ourselves, well, we need a Medical

School because Mr. Charlie's son from Madison comes down to the school. Mr. Charlie's son from West Orange has to come down here to go to school here. This is not the way to do things. I say to you and I say to this whole Board, you are the Planning Board, you ought to put your minds together. You ought to plan differently. You ought to plan on housing and schooling in the area and I think that this city, under the direction of Mayor Hugh J. Addonizio, should not tear down any more buildings or anything else until this city is built properly up on what is torn down now and also, I want you to be aware that I don't think that no cracker, and I make that a point, from Alabama, Georgia and Mississippi should come up here with any circus what creates a problem, take the money out of the Negro community, take the money out of the white community and goes back down to Alabama and we rent it to him for two or three thousand dollars and he takes the money and goes back down to Alabama. I disapprove of this and I think if you going to mean good to all the people of this city, you're going to come up with a constructive

program and you're going to build housing, schools, shopping centers, you are going to build good recreation centers and you are going to prove, you are going to prove to yourselves and you are going to prove to the Negro this is what they want, this is what they need.

We do not need anything that can't benefit us and unfortunately this Medical School cannot benefit us because we cannot afford it. This is pointblank. We do not have the money to send our children to these schools, and therefore, this school means nothing to us, but housing would mean something to us. Housing would play an important role in the area that you are talking about building a medical school.

Schools, elementary schools, would play an important role to the Negro in this area. This is what we need. This is what we must have and if you are going to do these things, then you are going to do what Martin Anderson, James Baldwin and many others have written about. If you are going to change the ghetto and make it better, do it by bringing fair housing, lower housing, better housing, better education, more health facilities in the area,

then you are doing something to help the community and the Negro population.

Mr. Chairman, there is no doubt in my mind and need not me tell you, but I am no fool. I have in this city alone, I have in this city alone exactly eleven pieces of property that is owned by the Cogmans in the city, that is owned, there is taxes, there are rents, there are permits, rooming house permits that we must obtain from the city and I think that we hold a considerable amount of property in this city, and as a taxpayer, at the request that I am asking you today, this isn't hard to give the Negro. It is not hard at all to give because if you, any time you have fifty-five percent of the population in this city, the majority rules and this fifty-five percent of the population is black and they rule, and we will prove it to Mr. Hugh J. Addonizio, when he comes up for re-election in 1970 and as the gentleman said the other day, if he has ambitions to be governor, he is a bigger fool than I am, because I have no ambitions to be governor and I don't think he will ever make governor in this State.

I also want to say to you, Mr. Chairman,

that I immediately call for recall of his election if the people were behind me because he has lied, cheated and connived the Negro population. He has made a fool of us. Now we can no longer let this man make a fool of us. We now must stand up. We now must be counted for, for the action that this man has took in this city, we must be counted for. We must come down here, we must express our feelings. We must express the things that we really need in our community. We must express what he has expressed to us when he ran for office back there in 1965. We must express this to him. He knows, the Mayor of the City knows when he came in the Negro community, he promised to give the Negro housing. He promised to give the Negro more schools. He promised to give the Negro recreation centers such as John F K Recreation Center there on Montgomery Street, which cannot be completed because they don't know why.

I say to you if you ask for Federal money, you must use federal money in a justified way. I think the only justified way into using Federal money is to go out and to build adequate housing, to build adequate schools, to see that

the Negro population must have what they rightfully deserve in this city. Furthermore, Mr. Chairman, we talk about all the good things that Mayor Addonizio has done for the Negro. If I found one good thing he has done for the Negro, I will buy him and I will buy all the rest of them with him. I say that Mr. Addonizio hasn't done any just cause to any Negro in the city. I say that he has made a complete fool out of any Negro in this city when he comes up with a project such as this project, when he comes up to tear, to destroy what is already in the area.

You know, there is a man in New England, up in New England and under urban renewal up there in New England, this man, I think his name is Daly, if I am correct, took the old elaborate houses that could be remodeled and he remodeled them. He didn't tear them down. He tore the structures inside that needed to be torn down. He remodeled the room, the bathrooms, he made it better. He remodeled the area. The houses that were torn down, he built brick houses. Under urban renewal, he didn't put projects thirteen-stories high. He built a

community. He was a wise man. He built a community so that the people could live decently in decent housing, not in projects that are thirteen stories high. This man was credited with doing one of the best jobs in that State and I think, from what I seen of it on television and read of it, I think the man has done a marvelous job and I think that the same program can be just as good here as he has done it in New England, if we the people of the City of Newark, the Mayor, Mr. Louis Danzig, goes out and brings a constructive program and not tear down an destroy and tell us we need thirteen-stories high projects which brings the Negro right back to the same ghetto that they just walked across the street from. This is what it is doing.

I remember when the Boyd Street Project went up. I remember when the Stella Wright Project went up and then along came Mr. Jack Parker and what did Jack Parker do? He came along and says, well, I am going to build beautiful houses for the Negro. I'm going to build him houses that they can buy, apartments that they can buy. So what did he do? He

went ahead and he put them right back in the ghetto and he built housing there and he charged eight hundred dollars down payment and so much a month. You can buy these apartments but you cannot sell them to anyone but back to the corporation of Jack Parker and the people must keep the upkeep.

Now, here's the problem that interferes. Here's the problem that the people in this area squawking about now. We don't have adequate police now. Well, the high rising projects are over us. We have the narcotics traffic. We have the mugger. We have the con and we have the pro, and what happens? The Negro who hasn't had enough sense to realize, as I realize that this is not the kind of housing they needed in that area. This was not the kind of housing. You can't beautify something in a ghetto that you have once part of the street a ghetto and the other part a ghetto. The ghetto is going over to the other side that is beautiful. This is senseless.

Mr. Danzig told us, well, you have to at least make ten thousand dollars a year to get in this housing. You at least have to have

a good credit rating, and you have to have so many people in the family, one, two, three people the most in a family and they thought it was a big thing. But it also has created a problem in our city. They are not calling for special police protection. They are now calling for better maintenance. They are now telling Lou Danzig and telling Jack Parker that the walls are made out of tissue paper. I've been there. It is a disgrace. I wouldn't pay a quarter for any one of them. Now, if you want to do something, then let us together sit down and plan a constructive program that the Negro can benefit, who lives in the ghetto. Forget the guy who can afford to live, one hundred fifty, one hundred sixty dollars a month rent.

Then Martin Anderson says this; I must say this, he says that the Federal Housing, mind you, he is a Federal man now, he is a specialist in urban renewal, he says that the Federal Housing, the Federal Low Income Housing, is not Federal Low Income Housing. He said it's Federal High Income Housing. He says because the people who move in it have understanding that it will be sixty or seventy dollars a month and then

if they make one hundred dollars a week, the rent is one hundred six or one hundred ten dollars a month. You call this low-income housing? This is where Mr. Danzig wants to give us. Well, I want him to give us low income housing. I want to give it to him, you know, with the people, the little people, the small people, the people who can't afford it, the people who go out and work in some of these houses. The people who throw the garbage cans up and down. The people who sweep the street. All we are asking you to do is build something that they can afford, that they need. That is all we need. This is all we are asking. This not hard. The Planning Board, even one of these men, even one of you men had any intelligence which I would say some of you do, if you had any intelligence, you would know what to do. You would know what the pressure is lying on this administration. You can tell by the voice of the people that this is not a project for the people. You can tell that the people do not desire to have a Medical School. You can also see that the people do not desire to be pushed and shoved around in this city and

I think Mr. Addonizio got just about fifty-five percent of the Negro votes in this city.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to bring one more point to you, in all fairness to this city, and to my livelihood in this city, I have never in my life seen a more corrupt administration in this city as I have seen here, here and now. I say to you that this administration has no respect whatsoever for the voice of the people and also, Mr. Chairman, that if you and this Board which is appointed and I can count, one, two, three--let's see, there is one, two, three, four Italians, it looks like there are two Irish here or three Irish, and like Mr. Carver said, cross-town guys, and I only see one--I don't even see him no more, I don't see a poor Negro here today. I have been looking for him. I don't even see him any more. Is he completely sick?

MR. COCUZZA: He is very sick, yes, sir.

MR. COGMAN: Well, you know, Mr. Alfred Booker. He is a real estate man, is that right? Mr. Alfred Booker owns some property up there in that area, isn't that correct? Doesn't he own some property up there, Mr. Alfred Booker own some

property up there in that area. He is a real estate man on High Street there, and I happen to know that he owns a few houses up there in that area. I think he is more interested in money than fair housing. I think he ismore interested in getting his property torn down so he can get money, have the Medical School come in, wait and get another take, because this is what it is, and he is not showing up because he is now sick. Come on. Tell him to get well and come back. I would like to see his smiling face.

MR. COCUZZA: We wish him well, also, sir.

MR. COGMAN: All right, Mr. Chairman, let me say this to you; think carefully what I am telling you here tonight. Use your head. When all this is over and you have to sit down and make the plans, say, well, we will take the Medical School and we will give it to Madison or we take the Medical School and we will shove it up in the Vailsburg section and we will give the Negro some beautiful houses, some better schools, some better recreation centers and then the Negro will be happy.

You know, a riot only starts by arrogant people and sometime people get a little discouraged. Sometime they get a little uneased with the situation they live in and these things occur. I don't like to see it in my city because it is my city, thirty years here, I can surely call it my city and I am thirty years old and I must call it my city. And my father was here for fifty years and I think that we can call it our city. By calling it our city, I don't see nothing,--I don't want to see nothing torn down, no fights, no riots, no nothing. I want to see harmony, peace in this city. I want to see justice done also out of this administration. I want to see it done to the Negro community as well as it has been done to the white community. I think that if Mr. Addonizio will play his political politics right, he will come along and do as we ask him to do. But if he doesn't, then I think that people will satisfy his political ambitions on election day, you see. He's got a lot of political ambitions, so have I. But he ain't going to make his. Maybe some day I'll make mine.

I want to say to you, Mr. Chairman, you think carefully. All of you men think carefully. Think carefully of what you're doing, and on this, Mr. McDowell, the Director of Finance, who charges a high amount of money for rooming housing permits in the city, which I am stonely against, the water bill went up, the taxes went up, the rooming house permits went up, the tavern licenses went up. Ask Mr. Addonizio what else is going up.

COLONEL HASSAN: The city.

MR. COGMAN: When is he going to come down? When is he going to come down?

COLONEL HASSAN: The city.

MR. COGMAN: When is he going to come down and take care of his city properly.

I say to you, Mr. Chairman, take in mind what I told you about Martin Anderson who is a specialist on the urban renewal. Take in mind that you cannot, or will not or you cannot or we will not let you destroy the Negro political power structure in our city. This is what urban renewal does when you build the Medical School in the area. You are taking away the Negropolitical power structure and you also are

taking away--at the present time you will be taken, are taking away seven districts that belong to the Negro political power structure and that seven districts we don't want you to take away. That seven districts is why we are here today fighting this administration for this and we want you to know that we want people, human people, people with understanding, people with dignity to go up there and move in beautiful homes and to live like human beings and not like dogs and animals. Not like in a shack that we can't find the landlord.

MR. COCUZZA: Mr. Cogman, pardon me for the interruption, may I remind you that you have ten minutes for summation, sir.

MR. COGMAN: Did I speak for thirty minutes already?

MR. COCUZZA: Yes.

MR. COGMAN: Oh, did I? Come on.

MR. COCUZZA: It is now 7:40, sir.

MR. COGMAN: Yes, okay, Mr. Chairman.

MR. COCUZZA: Thank you.

MR. COGMAN: I'll tell you this. Let us think about this together, you know, let the Negro political power structure with you doing

the planning come in and help you plan the area that needs to be housing and schooling up there. Let them come in and help you because I feel that you, not being a Negro, would not know all the things that are really involved without some Negroes, not only Mr. Booker, because he lives in Scotch Plains anyhow, we are talking about the Negro who lives in the area to come in and help you do the planning for our city, for our ward, for our ward.

This is our ward, see, and by doing this you will show the Negro that you are fair and you are in good faith. You will show the Negro that you want to move in the right direction. You will show the Negro that you mean for them to have better housing and better schools in the area. This is what you will be showing the Negro when you call them in and sit them down with you while you are doing the planning and say now, gentlemen, we came to the conclusion that we no longer need a Medical School, we need adequate housing. We do need adequate schools for the community. This is all you have to say. This is all you have to do. Then you carry it back to Mr. Addonizio, you say, we came to this

conclusion, see?

Say now that you told us one thing but we are telling you another thing. This is what ought to be done here and then let him go forth and say, well, let us do this thing properly, let's give the Negro what they are asking for because after all, they are fifty-five percent of the population and they do carry a lot of tax burdens in this city. This is just, see? You know, it costs nothing to be just. If a man has the loyalties of God, who believes there is a God, which many of you don't, but just say you do, then you will be just because in the Bible they say there are many, many mixtures and we all should be prepared.

Now, we need a mansion. You are prepared to give us this mansion. You ought to give it to us. You ought to bring fair housing, adequate housing in the area, adequate schools. I thank yuu, Mr. Chairman.

MR. COCUZZA: Thank you very much, Mr. Cogman.

The next speaker is James Taylor, 398 Peshine Avenue, Newark.

COLONEL HASSAN: Mr. Chairman, may I speak,

please?

MR. COCUZZA: Mr. Hassan.

MR. HASSAN: Tonight they are having a United Community Corporation meeting simply because of the many meetings that haven't been called. Some of the people that are here tonight also have to go the United Community Corporation meeting. It is extremely important. Those people that are here would like to speak first and then we can go back to the list.

MR. COCUZZA: All these cards were submitted tonight.

COLONEL HASSAN: There is one thing I am trying to point out, if you will understand, Mr. Chairman, is that--

MR. COCUZZA: How about Mr. King?

COLONEL HASSAN: Please allow me to finish. These people have to go to a meeting tonight that is extremely important to the City of Newark.

MR. COCUZZA: Do you have their names?

COLONEL HASSAN: Yes, sir, Mr. Jesse Allen.

MR. COCUZZA: Send him up here, please, and the Chair will call him. Do you have his card?

COLONEL HASSAN: Yes, I have the card.

MR. COCUZZA: In the meantime, Mr. Jesse Allen, if he is here, please come to the microphone.

(Mr. Allen presents himself at the microphone.)

MR. COCUZZA: Mr. Allen, you have thirty minutes for presentation and ten minutes to sum up, sir.

MR. ALLEN: Mr. Chairman, first of all, before I start speaking, I want to make very clear to you that when I start talking, it might end in fifteen minutes or thirty-five or forty minutes, and it might end in an hour, so I'm letting you know right now for the minutes you have because at this time I feel I will be speaking about half of what I believe in the City of Newark.

MR. COCUZZA: Please step back.

MR. ALLEN: I will discard any town rules, regulations that you have made for me. As far as I'm concerned, you can take that and use it somewhere else.

MR. COCUZZA: You have thirty minutes.

MR. ALLEN: My name is Jesse Allen. I

reside in Newark, New Jersey, 227 Jelliff Avenue. I am representing the Black Mafia in Newark, New Jersey. I am here to speak tonight, not in terms of the medical site but in terms of Negro removal and white folks run because when we declare a city blight, we have one thing in mind, that you have--that you say we have a Negro removal and Puerto Rican removal and the white people runs. That means when I say the white runs, when you have real estate, when you have real estate people after your city or government declares these area blighted, then you have the real estate people coming in the neighborhood and tear down this area and declare it Blighted. You have to move out the value of the property and it is going down. You have to sell us because the Negroes are moving, you know. Then what you have people likeyou who don't, will not live next door to the black man or the black woman, so what you do, you find another place to go to, which while is wide open for you, but the doors is closed to people like us. What I mean is people like us is all black people, you know. We cannot come out in the suburbs and live and do that. If we do that,

you're going to find some place else to go.

When we start to rebel against the destruction that you have set up and telling our people this is the best for you all, this is all in the benefit of you all, we looking and trying to do research and work and find who is benefitting from it. We the ones who suffering from it and you the ones that gains from it, because you don't know, you don't have to live in a city who have been in a ghetto city where it is in Newark or any other city you want to name where you have a ghetto area. Who created other areas when the black people who lived there today, people like you all who established these areas, but you find that you can move away from them and move us where we can support you all to live in the suburbs, in the suburban homes. This is the thing that we are tired of. We are tired of letting you people come down here to the City Hall and tell us that you all are the fathers of this city. How in the hell can you make me feel or anybody else feel that you concerned about this city in Newark when you are really moved out?

How many of you live in the City of Newark

now? How many of you live in the City of Newark now? You not concerned about the people in this city. You concerned about trying to hold on to what you have established in the city and make the black people in the ghetto area support you to live in the suburban homes. If you do research work on the city and in the ghetto area and throughout the United States, you will find that people of you pull thousands and thousands of dollars a month and millions of dollars a year out of the ghetto city, out of the ghetto area. You establish a business there. You come up with urban renewal program, say this is something to create better housing and what you created better housing is some what you call a new slum altogether when you build apartments twelve and fourteen stories high. You move families in there with six and seven people to a family with a four-room apartment and with the kitchen being built into the livingroom. This is a new slum, you know.

So, how you create this monster about urban renewal, give it everything here, give it to everybody and everybody is trying to reach out to get--to use people to get funds from the

Federal government to say that they represent the people and at the same time verybody is filling their pockets up. When I mean everybody, that means people like you who sit here tonight. You see, it don't take people always to figure out what is wrong in the city and who is benefitting from it. We know that when you come before this Planning Board, that the Mayor done give the word to all of you. Say I want this to be a clean people. That I want it to be a clean vote on this Board all the way. I want you to vote yes. He says to the City Council meeting, he got us old people living together because all of you know just what you are going to get at. We know what we going to lose out of it. Again a look at that in 1962 when Mayor Hughie J. Addonizio ran for Mayor of Newark. Look how many years before he was the Mayor when Mr. Carlin was the Mayor, when Mr. Carlin was the Mayor of Newark. When we first came down and Mr. Carlin asked for a Negro jury, his answer to that was the Negro's not ready yet and do you know what happened? The Negroes showed him that in 1962 they was ready. They was ready, but they was brainwashed. They was brainwashed,

because here comes Hugh J. Addonizio law who had been in Congress and making deals for fourteen years and say, well, we will listen. I'm a white liberal. I'm a white liberal. If you all support me, I'll stand by the black people in Newark. Do you know what he meant when you all support me, I'll stand by the black people in Newark? He was only trying to get Negroes to go in the community and vote for him and because he know that they was going to vote all the way. He know the Italian, it is split there with them because it is like, you know, in Italy you have the north and you have the south. If the north is the light, what you call the white Italian, the south is dark Italian for the skin is darker so they don't go together good, you know.

So what I'm concerned about and who is the dangerous people in this city is the white liberals. You see, I'm damn tired of seeing people like you come and pretend that you are white liberals and me will go at you like a mass of Ku Klux Klan, because the Ku Klux Klan has a hood on his face. It looks like the Ku Klux Klan around the streets today and they tell me in Florida where I was born and raised,

you know, one thing. You know you got to shoot them because that is your enemy but you come around and say we white liberals, you come on this side of the bush and you go on the other side and we can't see you coming through, but you hitting us in the back all the time. All the white liberals plan to say that they will keep the white community authority, you know. Just like I sits here from yesterday and last night from the time you take a seat. You came in after Mr. Booker wasn't around, after they used him for the blight man, say, well, we have you for the president and we put the white people on each side of you and say because this is a black community, we going to do that, maybe they will listen to you, but he got the message, you know, that people don't listen to him or what he have to say any more because they feel that he is not--he is the black man, but he don't represent the black people of Newark, and what the black people of Newark is ready for.

Then you come in after all from what I can hear, you say that last night with some questions raised to you and you supposed to be a member of the Planning Board and you address yourself to the

newspaper, then that made me believe one thing, so, hell, you're bringing him in because he's a white liberal, but he went in on the Planning Board. If you here, you talk about the Planning Board, not what you read in the newspaper. So therefore, you feel that you could come in and you say well, Mr. Allen, or Mr. Whatever-his-name-is, you address the Negroes nice, I'll change that word Negro to black people. You address them nice, like white liberals do, and we can get this thing over with and I'm going home feeling happy. We have news for you. We are not going to let you sell us out like that, you know. If I had my way with you, I'll tell you what you all would happen to the white liberal. I would Ku Klux Klan because I feel the so-called white liberal, all of you, need to be sent to the cemetery and when we send you to the cemetery, then we can start moving and you can't chain us down. People like you brainwash the white people.

Look at him, look at him, look at him. You get a picture of your face in the mirror, look, look at you. You call yourselves sitting up there fathers of the City? The Planners of

the city and if you look in the mirror and look at the expression on your face, you look like a damn bunch of caged wolves. If you don't like what I'm saying, youstop me, but I won't stop easy. If you want to talk about the rules, I say the hell with them. You go use them in the bathroom when you give out the toilet paper. That's how much I appreciate it, you know. I'm sick and tired of people in this city, the people, the black community to fight against one another. You say, well, last night, for instance, after this meeting was over with, I was getting a cab out on the street. I was stopped there--wasn't stopped there, I was walking to get this cab and one white fellow who worked for the City Planning Board for eight years, he was stopped there and started talking with me and all of a sudden got a policeman come by in a radio car and get away from him, don't talk to him, you ain't no good, you work for the City Hall and he better move on. That means he work for City Hall, that means when the Mayor snap his fingers, he jump. If anybody going to move, it going to be people like me because today I have come--the day has come that we recognize that we is the majority people in this city

and we are tired of you all using us for your own political strength and your own political power. We feel it is time for us to have this power. Now we know that you know what power means. We know that you are not going to give up your power without a fight. I mean that and that is your right. That's your right. I mean if I'm in power, there is nobody going to come over and take power away from me. I'm going to put up a fight. I want you to understand one thing, that we going to do just like you all did, we're going to fight to take it from you and you're going to fight to keep it and so again we will go back, you know, again we will go back just like the Italians did when we was trying to take the power from the Irishman in the city, you know. That group was awful busy in them days. You know what I am talking about, you know. What you know I'm talking about, you know what power means and you know you have to share the vote to get it. So, today you're coming here, say, well, we don't try the urban renewal programs. We don't put all the high rise projects in there. Now we are going to come back with a medical site. Now one thing that I don't

know whether you looked at, that you did all the tearing down and you throwed up a few high risers and a few cooperative buildings and say, well, we did something to try to satisfy the black people in Newark, but you haven't concentrated on how much you have vacant land left there that is torn down and haven't been built back.

We know and I know and in 1958, after I was stupid enough in 1952 to volunteer to go to Korea, but now I know about how to fight, where I live at, I bought a home at 75 Quitman Street. You know in 1962 when urban renewal come through there, right where your coop housing built, I used to own a home, the second house from the corner there. When I moved to the South Ward, the ward was then half decent neighborhood where you had apartment houses that I can name the houses that had severn room apartments where they themselves was apartments now and they is now four room apartments. What happened there? You had after the Negro started to move in, you had the real estate people come in through the white and they say, well, the Negro's moving in and the value of

property is going down, you're all going to sell your homes to me and the average one of you white liberals can't afford to live with the Negroes because they nasty and filthy so you all say because of the society you have been taught to by your parents for the four hundred twelve years and you haven't got hold of yourself yet. You say, well, we going to move out for what they do. The real estate people would pay them a lower price for their property and come in and our people and then they will sell it to our people and make three times the profits off it. Behind that you have the landowners come in where you have apartments with seven rooms. They automatically cut that room in half and make a four-room apartment or a three-room apartment and if you paying--if the white person is paying eighty-five dollars a month rent, they would move so fast just to get the white out and automatically the rent goes up to one hundred thirty-five dollars a month and the value of the property goes down. A few things happening in Newark today, these things are happening. I can start at Johnson Avenue and all the way through. I walked in the houses

where we taking the Mayor in and he brought in a City Inspector along with him and they find two hundred and eighty-five violations in that building. They find where the kitchen sink was going through the floor and that was two years ago and that building still there and they haven't done a damn thing about it. They have eighteen people in that building who was on welfare, who mothers had five and six kids and eight kids. When they find these violations in there and came out in the Newark News that the Mayor was there along with the Inspector, and we was there along with him, we know he was there also, butwhat happened? They didn't make them correct the violations. The Essex County Welfare, the mothers was paying one hundred fifteen dollars a month rent. A month later the rent went up to one hundred twenty-five dollars and the violations still exist. Essex County raised the check another ten dollars. So who are we supporting? The Essex County Welfare supporting the real estate business of Newark. At the same time, if this mother had went there or if this mother had a father and went there and asked the Essex County Welfare

for a five dollar raise or a three dollar raise to buy some more food to go into the Frigidaire or some more shoes to go on the kids' feet or some clothes to go on the back, they say we don't have it. It's not in the guidelines. So, if you can kind of get the message, you can see the reason why. I see those guidelines are made. It's not worth a damn when it comes down to Human beings because I feel that any time you can find money if a landlord walk in today or tomorrow and raise the rent from a person on Essex County Welfare, if they raise the rent from one hundred fifteen dollars a month to one hundred twenty-five, one hundred thirty, and they just raise the check up to cover that rent. Then who are they protecting? The clients or the landlords? Or is the taxpayer trying to protect their money?

I'll go a step further than that. I know that field because all this come under blighted, you might say I'm leaving what you call your own guidelines, but like I say, don't mention it to me because then I'll really be embarrassed again. I'll go back and say if we're concerned about the City of Newark and the future City of

Newark, and once you listen to the majority of people, the majority of the people in this city today is black people. These black people, and I'm one of them, these black people knows that this City has already been turned into a graveyard. We know if as a Negro or either one of you runs for Governor today or tomorrow, you get the governor's seat. The first thing you are going to do is cry Newark is bad and you are going to try to run it from the State, you know. Then you going to have control of the State and the City, but we say now, we have something to fight for. Not only are you trying to take over the City, but we have to build the City after you leave it because you done torn everything down that was left in it. How many factories and businesses have moved out of the City in the last ten years and why? And Why? I mean a lot of people establish their business in the suburbs because they can get cheaper tax there, you know. The tax goes up on people here, but who benefit from it, you know? One thing that we have to look at that wakes people's eyes up, how long after the last election, after Addonizio run for--was re-elected,

how long before he raise the salary from twenty-five thousand dollars a year to thirty-five thousand?

We know that I know taxpayers if you--if people really knew a lot of us know what's happening and a lot of you all know what's happening, and you won't admit it, we have a lot of people whose homes is in worse shape and better shape than other people homes, but these people pay higher taxes than the ones in the bad shape. If you take the average homeowner in Newark, today, the Negro homeowner,he can't afford to own them twenty-one and thirty-one unit apartment houses. The only thing he can afford to own is the one or two-family and the best is a three-family home. Therefore, he got to live here. Therefore he going to, by him living there, she living there, they going to keep their property up, but when you all come along and get the apartment buildings, once you don't keep the property up, you charge more rent and if a tenant comes and complains about the apartment, then where is the lawyer at? They on his side. You got to holler in court and everything, you go on about laws that was

established in 1800. You still abiding by them in the housing code. Who the hell goes by the laws established in 1800 unless they go for their own benefit and good, you know? Then when the black people come forward and try to fight for what rightfully they are entitled to, then we have a good friend, Norman Schiff, I am a white liberal, let me turn out and talk with you. Let me open the books and this is the law. This is the law. The law is only for the one--they want to show the laws to us when we fight against them. When you want something, that same law is on that book, but you find that red tape where you can bypass everything, you know, you know. Why you do this? Because you have created one thing, you call a white family. You have sit down with the Jews, you have sit down with the Irishman, you have sit down with the Italians, and say, listen, say, we all from one big family in terms of white, but we don't agree on different issues, but to keep the black people from taking over, we got to come together, but one thing that you have to make the black people, you say, well, Negroes will not stick together and we can treat

some of them nice and keep them far apart and we go on and it will cool off after a while. We will have our way. We will control. But I have news for you, what all you shook up about today, because today is the first time that you have seen in the City of Newark where the majority of the people are black, are coming together and say we going to fight for a change. This is what you worried about. You see, in the past you have went and got one or two Negroes, you was going to pick out one Negro and the post you will concentrate on, you will go to the Baptist Church and try to get a Negro Baptist preacher and say, we will make you happy, but you go out and talk to the people, but I have sense enough to know that four hundred twelve years ago the white men talked my people then, they talked them how to go out and tell them say now, thou shall not kill, thou shall not steal, that means when he's working you like hell for nothing every day, don't steal from his hand. He go about it and tell them say don't worry about it, you working like a slave. You'll get your own when you die and then the day we have Negro that this preachers like the thing

you see handing out the list here last night try to still come around and tell us about what the hell we have to die for. You see there is one thing we tired of and we no longer standing up, whether the black man or white having to come to us to tell us about look up and say sweet by and by when the morning comes and you come and get the hounds digging and go like all hell. You see it's time for us. We mean we going to dig some of it also. It's not enough today. All we have to do is stand up and fight and take that away from you what you already took away from us. This is not a problem only in Newark. This monster you create with urban renewal and what the market stands for, you business people operate, you preach some that you call the United States and ain't a damn thing united about a handful of people, because I got news for you, you know, you know as well as I know whether you're black or white and the majority around, there is just a few people chose the whole damn government in the United States. A handful of people. You got one of the biggest men right here live in Jersey. They call him Engelhard, who is one

of the biggest men in Newark and Essex Bank and the State of Essex County. He have a right to have them banks because goddammit, he never stood up and say he got slave mines in the mines of South Africa where have people working for twenty-five cents an hour. I working for twenty-five cents an hour, I'm telling you white people from America, you can work for five and six dollars an hour, but he goes, I say he's a white liberal in this country and when, doggonnit, it hits his daughter, his daughter brought home a black man to his house and told her she was in love with him, he took sick and went to bed for two weeks and the newspaper said he was ill but they didn't state why. This is the kind of people he is. He went further and said I would ignore you being my daughter. You look into the whole life of America country and look through there. Look at Puerto Rico, what you doing over there?

We going to have to send foreign aid. We have new programs. You have new programs over there. You'll find the Shop Rite, all these big companies, you find them right there. I tell you something else you'll find also, you'll

find slum areas there where people who this country supposed to be giving foreign aid to, five and six childrens to a family to get them something like twelve dollars a month to live off. You'll find something else this country doing over there and you businessmen is doing over there. You go there and you rent, you set up your business and tell them it be ten years before we can pay your tax off and when your ten years is up, you automatically change the corporation of that name to another corporation and then they move in and he stays there for ten years and the people get in the tax hole. At the same time, you paying off one person to say, well, you keep the peace over there for us, we'll make you happy. Then when people start to bellow against this when you holler, then what you do? If you black, you call them a Muslim. If you white and stand up against them, you call them a Communist, and if you people radically and they don't give a damn like me, you call them a troublemaker. This is what you do to them, you see, but one think that you have to understand, see, if you don't understand it, then, see, I'm only here

because, you know, like really the people gets tired, you know,when you get your back against the wall, you get back so far in you turn around and fight, you know.

You know, when MacArthur run out of dough were you whities and he told them, so he go out and we come in again. When he went back, he went back with a black regiment and he went through there. Some of us might get killed, you can call in, you got two things going for you, you have the police force, they will control by the City Hall. You have the government, you can call it the National Guard, but it's one thing you call in a thousand, a thousand of people, but nobody wants to die. If you know that you are going to be the first to get it, you will tell the National Guard and all of them to stand back and don't move because you say I don't want that. I want to live. I'm a person who don't give a damn about dying, you know. When I go over there in Korea fighting for something, I thought that I was going to make a better life for myself, saying I have a career for myself, what I did when I get back to the States, they made a shoeshine

boy right out of me right on.

Now, again, we have what you call a democracy in this United States going to tell the people be not violent. At the same time you train them how to be violent and fight somebody way over there twelve thousand miles. I don't know whether the people or the black people of the United States have stopped and looked at that, that every nation that we are-- that this country have rules against and fought was a black nation, was a dark nation. The further you go into South American, into the Latin American countries, where do you think the hell will be raised at? The majority of people is dark people because you say one thing, we [illegible] going to fight like hell to keep them over there because we robbing over there and we can't afford to let them come to the country over here because these black people over here are raising too much hell otherwise--

MR. COCUZZA: Mr. Allen, you have ten minutes more for summation, please.

MR. ALLEN: Let me remind you, Mr. President, I don't give a good god damn what you say on that book. I ain't going to move. I'll move

when I get good and damn ready. I f I don't move, you have your force. When it come down to fighting where I have to live at, you don't tell me how long I going to be here on my limit, because this again today, while we are here arguing and fighting today because you people have sit down for years and years and made this and say this is the ruling and this is the regulation, but when something comes out and affects your own lives, you find ways to break them. This is breaking our lives and we will find a way to break them tonight, at least I am going to find a way.

Again I'm going back and I'm going to say to you that I will not yield to you or anyone else when it come in here tonight and you try to push something to people that they--you can see they not satisfied with, they not happy with it and at the same time you are going to decide it before you call on the black hand which way it was before. You have decided this already. You come here and talk to people like you talking to a wall, you know. I mean, I think some of you dummies up there, I don't think you got feeling in you. Sometimes I wonder

if you got feeling. If I come up there and slap you upside the jaw and see if you move your head, I don't believe you'll move then. I'll sit here for a whole week and I looked at the people sitting on this Board. This young man over here about the only one I can say be whether he was serious or not, but he seems to be hear what the people was saying because he tried to pay attention to it and then again it might--it made us feel that it's time for new blood around here because you old folks, you old foggies over here ain't doing nothing, nothing. The world has changed but you have to change also. You have quite a few white people are going to change. Either you have to change or we are going to move you off. I say to you tonight that we going to stand up and we going to fight for better homes, better homes for people to live in. You cannot make me believe after you ask for one hundred fifty acres that you going to settle on fifteen acres or forty-five acres of land because if you--if we look at how you people have run from us in the past, how can you stand there or sit here tonight and tell the black community that

you just going to have fifteen acres of land and you're going to have others around here to build houses? We know the people who come in are going to be the ones going to this Medical School is going to be the white. Why it's going to be the white, because our schools don't turn out the type of people being qualified to go to the school and the reason why you don't turn them out is because we have eighty-five percent of the white teachers and the teaching in black people's schools don't give a damn about nothing but picking up the paycheck. I don't believe that you can convince anybody that you going to set up a fifteen or forty-five acre medical site and going to build homes around for black people to live in and knowing that you have all the black people that close where you have all the black people going to school. I think if you going to be concerned about this, building homes first on some of this land, that is already vacant and then come back and build a better site, you are going to have better people. It is again, we have to go back and say no to the Mayor. He has been Mayor for four years. It is time now to say

no to him and reconsider this thing, you know. Because you are building, you are going to have hell and how the hell am I going to stand by when I have a medical school going up there when I know the black people can't go there and you send white children there, I going to die there day and night or somebody going to die on me.

Thank you.

MR. COCUZZA: Mr. Joseph Price, please come to the stand. Mr. Price, please.

COLONEL HASSAN: Mr. Chairman, if I may, please, the four names that you gave me had to leave for the U.C.C., the other three must leave now. I would like to put Mr. Andrew Washington up next and he has a card.

MR. COCUZZA: Do I have his card, sir?

COLONEL HASSAN: Yes.

(Mr. Washington proceeds to the microphone.)

MR. COCUZZA: You have thirty minutes for presentation and ten minutes for summation.

MR. WASHINGTON: Incidentally, you did not ask me where I live, you know. I can live in Short Hills.

MR. COCUZZA: That's all right.

MR. WASHINGTON: It's not all right.

MR. COCUZZA: Present your case, please.

MR. WASHINGTON: It is indeed a pleasure to be here. I must apologize for being late and before I start, just so I know where I stand and you stand, Mr. Cocuzza, I would like to ask you, and I beg your indulgence for this seemingly impertinent type of inquiry, have the rules been changed since last night? I left here at 10:30, I believe, last night and there was a question about rules and procedures, and since I haven't been here since last night, I would like to know what are the latest rules.

MR. COCUZZA: You just came into the room?

MR. WASHINGTON: Yes, I just entered. It's raining outside, for your information.

MR. COCUZZA: I shall read to you the announcement that we made at the beginning of this hearing this evening.

MR. WASHINGTON: Thank you.

MR. COCUZZA: The Board has considered the reasonableness of the amount of time to be allotted to each speaker in view of the large number of speakers present at every previous

meeting and has unanimously concluded that thirty minutes plus ten minutes for summation is an amply reasonable time to give to each speaker. No-one is to speak for more than one forty-minute period.

MR. WASHINGTON: May I ask you further if in the event the speaker does not use up his entire forty minutes, would that time be credited to a subsequent speaker?

MR. COCUZZA: No, sir.

COLONEL HASSAN: If I may, please, if you remember last night, Mr. Chairman, you stated that you would allow one person to give the time to another and that person that gave the time would be removed from the speaking list and that was an equitable arrangement. An arrangement accepted by the people in the audience and an arrangement agreed upon by yourself, that you made yourself in the back. We didn't make that agreement. You made it and we accepted it and now you rescind it. Mr. Chairman, this is not quite like a meeting should be held.

MR. COCUZZA: Colonel Hassan--

COLONEL HASSAN: Why do you keep changing the rules? You make this rule and you have one

hundred people out here who want that rule, who come back for that rule.

MR. COCUZZA: Colonel, please--

COLONEL HASSAN: You people make me sick.

MR. WASHINGTON: Don't take this from my time, sir.

MR. COCUZZA: It will not be taken from your time.

MR. WASHINGTON: Thank you.

MR. COCUZZA: That's all right, Mr. Washington. When we discussed in conference during recess--

COLONEL HASSAN: That wasn't what you stated last night before you made any--now you change the rules tonight after telling us that's what it would be.

MR. COCUZZA: Please, the adjourned recess, Colonel, the Board agreed to have a conference today prior to the public hearing at 7:00 p.m.

COLONEL HASSAN: That's right.

MR. COCUZZA: And they concluded that they considered the reasonableness of the amount of time to be allotted for each speaker in view of the large number of speakers, and have unanimously concluded that thirty minutes plus

ten minutes for summation is an amply reasonable time to give to each speaker. No-one is to speak for more than one forty-minute period and that is the rule.

COLONEL HASSAN: Mr. Chairman, if I may point out one thing--

MR. COCUZZA: That is--please leave the microphone.

COLONEL HASSAN: If I may point out one thing to you--

MR. COCUZZA: You have one minute.

COLONEL HASSAN: Last night, as you were leaving, you stated that you would poll the Board to prove this to change this ruling publicly for everyone to see. Mr. Chairman, after you make such a statement, I can't conceive any ruling that you made before polling the Board publicly would be acceptable. This is what you said, Mr. Chairman. Now, what kind of a meeting are you running, Mr. Chairman?

MR. COCUZZA: Just a moment, please.

COLONEL HASSAN: This is what you said you'll do. You don't even want to do that, do you? This is what you said you would do publicly. The audience demands that you would

do it. This is what we want you to do.

MR. BRADLEY: Mr. Chairman, the word we used just now was unanimous, which means that everyone agrees. There is no reason to poll the Board. It was a unanimous decision.

COLONEL HASSAN: Perhaps the audience would like to poll the Board when we see the reaction when you vote no, when you vote you are going to change the Board, maybe they will like that.

MR. COCUZZA: There can be no further discussion on that. You heard Commissioner Bradley tell you--

COLONEL HASSAN: I think I have to accept your ruling, Mr. Cocuzza, but again I see the shame which white America is living under. You can't even keep your word overnight.

MR. COCUZZA: Mr. Washington, it is now 8:30.

A VOICE: 8:26, not 8:30. What's wrong with you? Can't you even tell time?

MR. COCUZZA: You have to realize.

MR. WASHINGTON: I'm having trouble getting my thoughts together here for the noise, so don't credit that time.

I would like to begin by lodging a formal

protest against this alleged blight hearing. I would like the record to so indicate. I most vehemently protest this so-called hearing on blight, and I perhaps may go into detail later on why I so protest.

Initially I might say that I think it is a mockery and I have compassion for you, you six gentlemen who are, I might use the phrase, being used. I so--I don't really believe that I could become a party to this. I know that you devote your time and you contribute in this toil, toil and effort, but I think it is for no avail.

The other situation that brings quite a bit of discomfort to me is the inordinate number of police that I see present here. If you look around the room and you make a count for yourself, you wonder just why these gentlemen are present here because I know that they work hard, they have wives, children and I think they would like to be home. I know they would like to be home. Yet for some unknown reason they are here. Now, I ask you, is it because we are criminals? I look around, I see ordinary citizens who work every day, law-abiding

have families, have jobs and they don't--they have not asked for this protection.

Mr. Chairman, you are the Acting Chairman because Mr. Booker's illness, I want to begin by asking this question; are the police here at your instance, sir? Mr. Chairman, I would like for you to answer. Did you so request the presence of these police? Did you order these police to be present?

MR. COCUZZA: Your question is irrelevant. We are speaking about a blighted area, which shall be considered blight. Please speak on the relevancy of the subject matter.

MR. WASHINGTON: All right. Why are the police present?

A VOICE: Instead of being in the blighted area.

MR. WASHINGTON: As I understood, one of the representatives from the police department claim that this so-called blighted area was a harbinger of crime, all sorts of evil doings, as I so understand. If this be the case, I would think that these men would be better deployed at another place because, as I look around, I see ordinary citizens here, mothers,

fathers, these are not criminals here. These are nice, ordinary citizens. They have not requested the police to be here. I understand you can get them right away on call, but that's a different story. I just want to know why they are here. Who is being protected from what?

COLONEL HASSAN: This is unconstitutional. This is gestapo.

MR. WASHINGTON: Why do we need police to watch us? No crime is being committed. The only crime that is being committed is the crime against the black community. Is this a police state? Why must it be every time groups of Afro-Americans come to lodge legitimate grievances? They must be viewed as being suspicious, subversive. I won't use the word troublemakers, because I am a troublemaker and I'm proud of it. If being classified as a troublemaker means to protest against the illegalities that are perpetrated by an administration that has ceased to represent the feelings of the community, I plead guilty.

Now, I'd just like to lodge another protest here. I would say that the Director, and I don't know what his name is, a Police Director or whatever his name is, if he would use the

same kind of diligence that he is using to deply these men here to haunt out organized crime, corruption--

A VOICE: He's a part of it.

MR. WASHINGTON: Then I think he should be commended, but I am just curious about why it is necessary to have policemen to sit around, actually I don't know what they are doing, I think they are bored, really. You look around as I said before, honestly, if you ask yourself you are a policeman sitting there. I have nothing against policemen. I know they are doing what they are being ordered to do, that they wish they were some place else right now. See, even the fellow over there smiled. He knows he would rather be some place else. Let us see. Nine o'clock, it is almost time for "I Spy." You are missing the show. All right.

Now, but I think here what this really represents, sir, and all of you esteemed gentlemen are unwitting participants in this kind of what I call criminal proceedings, that you are permitting these policemen to form a kind of intimidation because, really, the only time you need policemen is when a crime is being

committed and no crime is going to be committed here. If so, what kind of crime? The police headquarters is merely a stone's throw from here and I am quite certain if there was any kind of "outbreak," the police could be deployed here in a matter of minutes.

So, I'm protesting, as a taxpayer, a misues of my tax money. I want the record to reflect that I asked a question, how much money is being misused by having to pay these policemen overtime or compensatory time? They have not even asked for this. This is germaine to this question of the blight hearing because policemen are not necessary to conduct a blight hearing.

Blight hearings are conducted in various parts of this country every month. You know it, or you should know it, without the presence of what I call a disproportionate number of policemen. Maybe if you look around, somebody later on can tell me how many policemen, I am talking about uniformed men and the plainclothesmen, we work out some kind of a proportion and if we can find out the ratio of policemen to the present number of people here, if we get this

kind of police protection in this city, this would be one of the safest towns in the State.

Now, I think this is really a mockery and you asked me to really go--keep germaine and keep facts in front of you so that, you know, this hearing can proceed as it should. Well, I wouldn't want to waste your time and my time by sticking to what I call all the relevant information here because it will only be a waste of time. I have a lot of facts here because, as I say, I consider this to be an illegal hearing, but I want the record to so state that I have considered this to be--this hearing to be illegal.

Now, let's talk about housing. As I understand it, the reason this hearing is being held because notice to declare X number of acres as "blighted," this is the reason for this hearing.

MR. COCUZZA: May I correct this? This hearing has been called to hear presentations from the audience and the Newark Housing Authority regarding the area in question, whether it is blighted or not, and after all evidence is in, the Planning Board will make a determination

as to whether it is a blighted area or not. That is the only subject matter before us during this hearing and the area is bounded by Bergen Street, Norfolk Street, South Orange Avenue and 12th Avenue.

Please continue.

MR. WASHINGTON: I notice that the press at hearings drone on. I don't know what they are talking about. They are talking about the response from the Planning Board or the spirited comments and relevant statements made by the speakers because as I have witnessed it, the speakers have stuck to the point. The point is that these citizens are concerned about good, decent housing.

Now, let's talk a little bit about this proposed Medical School because as I understand, some of this land will be used, if it is ever granted, for this so-called Medical School. Well, I have had some connections with education and I daresay that as things stand now, very few of the children, especially black children or Puerto Rican children, will ever pass through those doors if the school is built as indicated. You know, it is going to be, you know it and I

know it. The reason is very simple, you know the reason also is that our city has abrogated its responsibility to the black and Puerto Rican children. They have told them in no uncertain terms that second class, third rate, split sessions are good enough for you. That's one of the reasons we are against the Medical School. If we had a first-rate educational system, as we don't have, if we had adequate housing, we don't have that, then I might be interested in talking about a Medical School.

While I'm on the subject of the Medical School, I understand there is many acres of unused land out in the meadows, that might be a good location for the Medical School, but having it in the heart of the city is like telling black people, you know, we are tired of your being around here and it is about time for you to move on. I understand that many white people take offense to the term of black, but we have to face this situation in our country that there is racism. It is rampant, racism in our country, and I daresay that you cannot describe any of the speakers, in fact, I'll give you Washington's test of race. You

close your eyes and you attempt to describe me to one of your colleagues tomorrow and I daresay that you will have to use a term that he was a Negro, he's a colored boy, he's black, see? And see, you never tell me anything else. That's because our country practices rasism and this whole thing is a form of racism. That's why most of the people here is upset is because this is an unholy, if you want to use the word, attempt on the part of the so-called administrative officials. They are making an attempt to tell poor people that they don't have any rights, that decisions will be made for them and only thing they can do is move while once upon a time that kind of nonsense was permitted to go on, but it is a new ball game, see. A ball game that says people are tired of being kicked around. People are tired of being nomads and a nomad as you know is a person that has no permanent home. Do you know that many of the children who are in our public schools by the time they reach the sixth grade, the seventh, eighth, ninth, tenth, eleventh, twelfth, have twelve different addresses? Are you aware of this? Maybe you are and maybe you

are not aware of this. As you tell me about the new rule, I'll tell you about the new education. You learn a little bit; I'll learn a little bit.

Now, giving this kind of mobility, and mobility means movement, is done unwillingly, can you tell me how a child who has fifteen or sixteen different addresses by the time he reaches high school would be even eligible to even think about going to Medical School? It's fantastic. You don't believe it; no-one believes it. It is impossible, so, this whole thing we are fighting against here, and I know the paper will reflect that I don't live in this area, but when I think about Newark, I think about the entire city of Newark. I have lived here all my life and I intend to stay here as long as I possibly can. I am not going to plan on anybody running me out. If I move, it is because I want to move and I am going to be here for a long time because I like Newark. I am going to help remake it so I'm going to help to get it to point where the citizens come to protest, they will be faced with hostility. As I see it now, the ins and outs, the

good guys and the bad guys, you can tell all the good guys because all the good guys are protecting. This again is racism. In order to be a good guy, you have to wear a white hat while good guys are going to start wearing black hats now, okay?

Now, it is coming to the point now, and I think the very serious state of affairs that people who dissent are considered to be, let us say, criminals, unpatriotic in some way of thinking, and they can become suspect, suspect of what I don't know. But my point is borne out by the fact that I have to have twenty, thirty policemen look at me while I'm making a speech like I'm going to steal this thing. First of all, it is my tax money. I bought this, so anything that's in here technically belongs to me because some of my tax money has bought this, so here, again, I think that the administration which appointed you, except the staffmen over here, who get paid, have got to realize that you can't exist in a state where only one side or one opinion or the conformity is accepted. There has to be room for what we call healthy dissent. This is democracy. This is what

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democracy is all about. There is no place in the books that says that everyone has to agree with everyone else, but as things stand now, anyone who dares raise his voice in protest, anyone who dares speak in opposition to this so-called official line, is ipso facto a criminal, which means that he has to be watched, not by one policeman, not by two policemen, not by a Sergeant, but you have to have superior officers here. As I said before, and I'll say again, who would rather be home watching the television, on the golf course, they don't want to be sitting around here. I think I am going to ask for a physical fitness thing for some of these policemen. When they got on the force, some of them could touch their toes; I think they would be hard-put to do this now. If we are going to have policemen, I would like for someone to look more snappy, you know, watching me, listening to me, because I don't consider myself a criminal and I don't think I have to be watched, but for some reason or other, and it bothers me, really, that's why I keep bringing it up, because I feel that if policemen are necessary, they should be deployed

to a place where crimes are either being committed or in the process of being committed.

Now, sometime I look around Washington Street, I see people riding up in nice, late model Cadillacs. They are white men, usually, and I know they don't live on Washington Street. I sit there and wonder what they doing on Washington Street, eleven, twelve o'clock. Nobody ever challenges them. This bothers me because I know if I go up to Essex Fells, Short Hills, Hillside, and about eleven o'clock or twelve o'clock, you know, when I ride kind of slow, sooner or later a little cruiser comes behind me and says pull over and they ask me all sorts of ridiculous questions. First of all, they want to see my registration, you know, go through this whole bit, want to see my registration or my driver's license. Yet, you know, I see these fellows ride up and down Washington Street, High Street, with impunity and no-one ever questions them. Yet, we have so many policemen here watching ordinary citizens exercising their right, their constitutional rights, and this is why we are disturbed about this hearing. So, I would like

for you to search your conscience and I know each one of you do, and ask yourself why are you sitting there and going through this kind of ordeal? I know it is an ordeal because I know you would rather be some place else, right, Mr. Cocuzza?

MR. COCUZZA: I enjoy this very much.

MR. WASHINGTON: Oh, come on, you don't enjoy this.

MR. COCUZZA: Yes, I do.

MR. WASHINGTON: That kind of abuse you get, you don't enjoy that. Maybe you are a masochist, I don't know. They have some kind of trial going on up there on High Street about some nonsense or something, I don't know.

But getting back to the point that this whole thing I think indicates that a new surge of independence, a new surge of citizenship that is being displayed in the City of Newark, and has never been displayed before.

I think two issues have gone a long way to unite--to a very significant degree, the minority, the black minority community. In this case it isn't a minority because we are a majority and we don't want to run anyone

out of town. In fact, we will permit you to even stay here. I mean, we have nothing against white people. Like somebody told me, he said he saw a sign in here, kill the white man. I never say that. Maybe a mistake happened, that's okay. I don't hold that against you, but I think what has to happen with all you gentlemen here, that includes the police, that we have to stop thinking about bad guys and good guys. We have to start thinking about what's going to help make Newark a good city and what's--whether or not everybody, everyone who lives in Newark has to agree with the administration in order for this to be a good city.

Even President Johnson doesn't want all the people to yes him around. They soon cease to be of any use. You have to have what we call healthy exchange and interchange of ideas, so, this kind of atmosphere, this whole atmosphere, I've been here many times, even before they have whitey here. It's charge, countercharge, hostile feelings. You can almost cut the hostility with a knife here where you have some policemen glaring at citizens because they have dared to say something negative about some

elected official. It is as if these people are gods. There are no gods around here. The gods are places elsewhere. I think if anything, if any lessons come out of these hearings, I think a lesson should be that we will have to learn how to respect the feelings and the statements of people whose view may be diametrically opposed to yours, and this, as I said before, is what democracy is all about, and we are not going to be satisfied. In fact, I'm not going to be satisfied until I can come here into one of these hearings and not see a policeman present until he is needed, until some citizen's in obvious violation of the law, and if he is, I think he should be arrested, but what you are saying now when you have all these policemen here is that we think some kind of crime is going to be committed because there must be some criminal present and I daresay, I look around and I see my fellow citizens here and I am asking you, why are the police present and you have within your authority, sir, to request that these policemen be removed until they are needed, you know, and you could, I think that would be the best thing that you could do

today. Ask that these policemen be dismissed and sent home to their wives and children so they can enjoy television.

I'm going to ask for a nice letter from the P.B.A. and the F.O.P. because I want you fellows home. This is ridiculous.

Also, we are asking here why the police don't wear ties any more.

COLONEL HASSAN: It's too hot.

MR. WASHINGTON: I have a tie on. I said before, we like the policemen to be neat in their present appearance.

MR. CUCOZZA: Mr. Washington, let us get back to the topic of the evening, please, and that is the area to be considered blighted.

MR. WASHINGTON: As I understood before that one of the speakers claimed that there was an inordinate amount of crime being committed in this area and I was only bringing the police in to say that is this area the only area where crimes are committed, and if this area is so crime-ridden as has been stated by this esteemed member of the police department, why don't some of these men be deployed up there right now so they can end the crime? This is a simple

question which requires a simple kind of an answer. This says a blighted area is crime-ridden. Police should be there. Why are they not there and why are they here? This is all I want to talk about, you know. I think that this may be instead of a blight hearing, it is a police hearing and I keep getting back to the point, sir, and you never answer my question, you never answer my question. I would like to get back to the topic but until you can answer my question, I am having difficulty. I have what we call a hangup right here on the subject of police. I want to know why the police are here and it is a very simple question. Now, you don't have to have a Harvard degree to answer. You don't have to have an elementary school education. The question is, why are the police? All you can say is, Mr. Washington, the policemen are here because--and inless than twenty-five words you can finish the sentence. That is all.

Mr. Chairman, I speak English, you know. It is a very simple question and you are going to give me an answer. It is a very simple answer. Why are the police here?

A VOICE: Stupid, answer the question.

MR. WASHINGTON: As one gentleman to another, and I am not trying to badger you or harrass you, I am only asking a very elementary question. Please give me an answer, sir, and don't charge my time by it. I hope this time isn't charged against my time. I am waiting for the answer. Come on, what is the answer?

COLONEL HASSAN: Tell him whether or not he should answer a question.

MR. COCUZZA: Sir, your time is running out. Please continue, Mr. Washington.

MR. WASHINGTON: Yourtime is running out, too, sir. All I want is an answer. Tell me why the police are here.

MR. COCUZZA: Please continue.

MR. WASHINGTON: Why can't you answer that?

MR. COCUZZA: I have no answer.

MR. WASHINGTON: You have to have an answer, do you want them here?

MR. COCUZZA: We are here to receive your presentation.

MR. WASHINGTON: Did you shake your head in assent that you want the police here?

MR. D'AIESSIO: No.

MR. COCUZZA: I am the Chairman.

MR. WASHINGTON: I thought the gentleman on your right said that he wants all these policemen here.

MR. COCUZZA: He said no such remark.

MR. WASHINGTON: He shook his head up and down, which means yes. This means no. But for some reason or other, Mr. Cucozza, I am forced to lose, you know, the kind of gentlemanly respect that I have for you because you refuse to answer a relatively simple question. Maybe this has bothered you that there are so many policemen here for so few people. This isn't a court of law.

MR. COCUZZA: Nothing bothers me. I enjoy listening to you. I enjoy all of this. Please continue.

MR. WASHINGTON: But I don't hear all your answers, though, because you are not answering my question. Let me have some enjoyment, also. Don't--ain't I entitled to some enjoyment? You say you enjoy the speeches, you enjoy listening to the presentation. I would like to enjoy your answer, if it is a right answer.

MR. COCUZZA: I have answered you, Mr. Washington. We are here to hear your presentation.

MR. WASHINGTON: As I said before, I would have liked to have given you what I call a masterful, a relevant, scholarly, pertinent and to-the-point presentation, but I am being inhibited and not intimidated. Of course, this don't bother me, by the presentation of so many lawmen, because I am afraid that my words are being taped, I don't know, maybe there is a tape recorder under here, I don't know.

Incidentally, have you checked this out tonight? Am my remarks being taped?

MR. COCUZZA: Right there, we have a Court Stenographer.

MR. WASHINGTON: I go very well on tape. I like it. I like being taped. You see a lot of questions which makes this whole thing a mockery.

Now, when you get to the point where you are ready to entertain what I call significant, relevant, pertinent, to-the-point information, I will then entertain an opportunity, I will use an opportunity to present you what I call

very pertinent facts, but right now, this hearing is being conducted in what I call police state atmospheres and it inhibits these people from going on. You know, you would have a lot more citizens coming down here, sir, from the blighted area if there weren't so many policemen here. You told me before that you wanted to hear people talk about the blighted area. You want citizens to come here and express themselves. Ain't that what you said to me before?

MR. COCUZZA: That's right. Right here and now.

MR. WASHINGTON: I am saying here that the reason you are not hearing any more people come down is because they are being intimidated by the presence of so many policemen. I'm not being intimidated, you can have a million here, it wouldn't make no difference to me, you know. So, I'm saying that between now and the next time that you convene, I would hope that you would check it out with someone and tell them that the policemen should not be deployed here in such numbers and that because they are being deployed here at the expense of the

right of protection to that blighted area, that is so crime-infested according to the statement from the police--

MR. COCUZZA: Pardon me for the interruption, you have ten more minutes for summation, sir.

MR. WASHINGTON: Thank you.

MR. COCUZZA: You are welcome.

MR. WASHINGTON: But part of my summation I wish that you would take this time, in fact, I will begin by being generous. I will use part of my time, I will yield part of my time if you tell me why so many policemen are present. The reason I ask you, I explained to my daughter yesterday that there were so many policemen and she said, Daddy, my daughter is eight, why are there so many policemen here? Are crimes being committed? I would like to be able to tell her when I go home tonight why there are. Don't disappoint my daughter. I don't care if you disappoint me, but don't disappoint my daughter. Suppose you tell me so I can tell her, okay? Why should there be policemen here?

MR. COCUZZA: Please continue, Mr. Washington. You have ten more minutes for

summation.

MR. WASHINGTON: You are being unfair to me and you are ignoring me and if anything, I hate that, if there is anything I hate and it is to be ignored, you know, it makes me a little difficult, you know.

MR. COCUZZA: We know, but you have to pay attention.

MR. WASHINGTON: You are not answering my question.

MR. COCUZZA: Please continue with your presentation.

MR. WASHINGTON: I asked two very simple questions, sir, whether or not you want a policeman here, number one, and why are they here, and I have not gotten nothing but blank, you know, and evasive answers. In fact, you haven't responded. I am a great one about that. I don't want to invade it. I know that you don't want to be a party to any kind of game-playing here. I am trying to look out for you. You would rather be home now. You make it very difficult for all of us here. And I don't know if I am taking the liberty of speaking for a lot of people here, but many people asked me the same

question as soon as they hear I intended--I attended the blight hearing. First thing they ask me, is what was said, how many policemen were here. This is a thing that I think needs to be answered. Sooner or later the Director is going to make a request to the City Council about paying for these people and certainly they deserve to be paid. I don't know any policeman here that don't want to get paid. The taxes are going up high. My taxes are raised even higher in order to pay policemen who shouldn't be here. They have no reason to be here. They aren't needed.

As I look around, I look at the eyes of the policemen. They tell me and indeed, I often wondered the same question myself. They wanted to know why they are here themselves. They look around on the faces there, the eyes all say, you know, you can tell a lot of the people by their eyes, they say they wish they were home right now. You see that, and this is the whole thing that is bothering the citizens of Newark, that they are getting police protection when they don't need it and there are places in Newark that, you know, could use these gentlemen.

Back up in Vailsburg, I don't know, but the thing about it is they are not needed here and I think you do a great disservice to the citizens by permitting the presence of so many law enforcement officers, you know, because as I said before, you are saying that number one, there are many criminals in this audience, number two, there is a great--there is a possibility that some kind of crime may be committed. If this crime is committed, we must have this large number of law enforcement officers in order to control the people and I daresay as you look around over this audience, you have to ask yourself in all honesty, do you see a criminal in this audience? Aren't these law-abiding people here? Aren't these people upstanding citizens and taxpayers? They don't need this protection. Right now they don't need this protection. They don't need it, you don't need it, we don't need it, and in fact, the policemen that are here don't want to be here. They don't want to be here. They would rather be home with their wives and children, but they are being forced to be here against their will, to go through this mockery of a hearing that is a

farce. You know it and I know it. We are playing games with people here. We are playing games with people's time. It's money being wasted. That's the whole mess. That's the name of the game, money, and this is the-- I think this is the crime of the century that is being committed in Newark, here, the fact that we are going to be billed one way or another in order to pay these gentlemen's salaries here and they don't want this kind of overtime, not sitting down, you know, they fall asleep. It's all right, but you know, it's ridiculous. You know it and I know it, so that we are really going through the motions of conducting some kind of blight hearing and I think that the plans were that maybe one or two days were going to be set aside for a blight hearing, you are going to get this over with, you are going to sign everything and everything was going to be hunky dory, but it didn't go that way. We are prepared to say here, we are prepared to stay here for days and months, years, if necessary, you know there are a lot of people in Newark who haven't even spoken yet and any time we want

to get these people to speak, we can get them. You are going to have to sit here, you know that? That's misery. Your whole summer is going to be killed.

MR. COCUZZA: Thank you very much.

MR. WASHINGTON: All summer long. You are going to have a long hot summer in that seat over there. Do you know that? Sooner or later these policemen are going to get angry at you. They want to be outside, but I don't know, I don't think you don't learn and you don't want to answer my qeustion, but still the sixty-four thousand dollar question, sir, and perhaps when I am going to meet again because I have to go to another meeting that you will be prepared to tell us, and don't cut me off until I finish, I will be done soon, a couple of things, don't get anxious, keep the anxiety level down, keep cool, you know, keep cool, that you should be parepared to answer this question. Number one, did the Planning Board order these policemen to be present? If so, why? And, if you don't want them, why don't you ask them to be dispersed so that they can go home to their wives and children, you know, because it doesn't make

sense, not only are you wasting their time, they are wasting your time, plus we are going to be hit with this bill. This tax went up last year; it will go up next year. I hate to have taxes raised in order to pay this extra overtime for unnecessary services, you know, so this is why we are so upset with this hearing, because we just don't think that everyone is being treated fairly and at this hearing it really isn't being designed to elicit what we call pertinent information that some of the things that have been said by elected representatives, by people from the administration are done, because not that they may believe what they are saying, but they have been told to say this, and as a result, this entire hearing isa mockery. It is illegal. It is time-wasting and it is going to be costly and it is fine for the Chairman, see, you are having fun, but you ought to poll your people here.

I would like you to take a poll now. How many people are having fun up here?

MR. COCUZZA: You have one minute, Mr. Washington.

MR. WASHINGTON: One more minute for fun.

If you are having fun, raise your hand. You see, no-one is raising their hands. They are not having fun. Nobody is having fun but you and I think you are being unfair to the other fellows. If you having fun and they are not having fun, they are feeling cheated. They should ask you how come you are having so much fun.

Okay, thank you, thank you.

MR. COCUZZA: I will call the next speaker in about one minute. I am not ready for you gentlemen, sir, please sit down.

(Recess taken.)

MR.COCUZZA: Please come to order.

The next speaker is Mr. Carl J. Kaditus. Is Mr. Kaditus present?

(Mr. Kaditus comes forward to the microphone.)

MR. COCUZZA: Mr. Kaditus, are you speaking for yourself?

MR. KADITUS: I am speaking for myself and representing these people here.

MR. COCUZZA: You have thirty minutes to speak and ten minutes for summation. I presume, Mr. Kaditus, I presume that you understand this

hearing is being held to consider whether the area in question is blighted or not and that area particularly is bounded by Bergen Street, Norfolk Street, South Orange Avenue and 12th Avenue.

MR. KADITUS: I know the area well. I have represented clients on every single street in that area, but my reason for being here will touch not only that particular area, but the entire City of Newark, which I believe is in issue.

When I first learned that the Medical School was going to change its location from Jersey City to another place in the state and when I first learned that Newark was being considered, I rejoiced, because I know the great need of a medical school in this city and what benefits it can bring. I have seen medical schools in other cities, in Philadelphia and in New York. I have seen the residents around there, the poor around those schools receive excellent treatment from those schools. This is an important benefit that the people in this city can receive, especially the poor that cannot afford great expenses for dentistry and

for the health and welfare of their children and the older members who have absolutely no means to be able to afford this, to fight various diseases which we all succomb to.

There isn't anyone in even a middle class and many of the wealthy people that could afford to fight cancer if they did not have hospitalization and even with that I have seen friends of mine who were wealthy and absolutely rendered poverty-stricken after they suffered an illness like this in their family. The poor can never right such. A medical school would be helpful to them. It could treat their children early in the stages of various diseases and that is why I rejoice because I know right now that this City, this City Hospital that we have is one of the most infamous hospitals that there is in the entire State.

My work with various civil rights organizations has seen complaints come to them where people try to get ambulance service to the City Hospital. They called many times for ambulances services and they never got it from that hospital. I have talked to many other

who live in this city and they said, please, if anything ever happens to me, don't let me go to the City Hospital. It is a horrible place. Again I say I thought of the Medical School coming to Newark and I said, bravo, we will have a cure for it because we will have students and professors there that will watch this and will do much better jobs than is being done in the city. I have seen individuals come out of city hospitals a bloody mess. They have blood, I have seen them bleed in my office. I had to send them to my own doctor to be patched up after they have left the City Hospital. The expert treatment that is given there, it is deplorable, it is infamous. For those reasons we need the Medical School in this city, but we don't need to give a great portion of this city to the Medical School. The Medical School is supposed to be here for the people, not the people for the Medical School.

This city and this Planning Board and the Planning Boards before it have constantly created large ghettos, large, huge, brick ghettos that go vertical into the air. The

highest buildings that we have in this city are slums, built by this city.

The Planning Board must take responsibility. It can't point to Danzig and say, oh, that's his problem, and Danzig can't point to the Mayor and say, oh, well, that's all the money they are giving us, and the Mayor can't point to somebody else. It is all one administration. You designed it. You built it and if you are going to build high-rise ghettos to keep the people in, day in and day out, then you build a high-rise school up in the air.

Now, I know the purpose of this hearing. You have made it very specific. The question is, should this particular area be razed, because it is a slum? Of course it is a slum, but you made it a slum. There is where and tear there, of course, by people. You have that no matter where it is, be it Glen Ridge, be it South Orange, you have it any place, but this Planning Board has never, during its entire administration, enforced the Housing Code in that area.

COLONEL HASSAN: That's why it's a slum.

MR. KADITUS: The last time I brought up

to a city official if we do that, there will only be bigger payouts to them. You can't get any place that way.

Gentlemen, city planning could be a benefit or a weapon against the people. You are manufacturing slums; you want to rip down this area but you don't want the people to live in it. You want to put a small portion of students in it in horizontal buildings. At the same time you feel that you have a clear conscience when you build high rise ghettos.

That school must be here in this city, but it must be on a small portion of land. In this one building alone, we could put at least five hundred dental chairs and we could teach a medical school right in this one building alone. This one building alone could house it. That's all that is needed. Fifty acres, that's what you are asking for right now.

Gentlemen, take Columbia Medical School, Temple Medical School, Rochester Medical School and pick another, and the four of them will bounce around in fifty acres. We cannot afford this. You cannot sacrifice this. Now, I know that this Planning Board in this administration is

caught in a bind because the Trustees of the Medical School said you either produce fifty acres and later another one hundred acres or else we don't come to Newark, and the Mayor gave in, because he wanted the Medical School, but it is a price that we ask not be paid. It is far too much because the people that you move out of here, you have to move them into another area. You are creating more slums in other areas.

I have only lived in Newark for one year. I deliberately moved into this city from Glen Ridge, a beautiful town. I paid eighty dollars a month rent in Glen Ridge. Now, sir, I pay more than eighty dollars a month in taxes for a small house in Newark. Ask anyone in the suburbs or ask ninety-nine whites out of one hundred in this city and you know what they will all tell you? It is the Welfare in this city that causes it, the increasing welfare costs. Gentlemen, that welfare cost goes right through the poor people's fingers like it was just a conduit. It goes right back up to the suburbs. The more welfare that you keep pumping out, look around you, you see the poor getting poorer. It goes right through them

like a sieve, the rich get richer up in South Orange. Then you go and you talk to a man in South Orange and he'll say, but I can't do anything, the taxes are so great, and he doesn't improve the house and so, consequently, you have higher and higher taxes, you have poorer and poorer and poorer people, and you have more and more people trying to leave this city.

Gentlemen; a person in the middle income cannot move into this city unless he is very brave or very foolish. He just can't afford it. You have to be very poor, very rich to live here. You, with your planning, are killing the city because when middle-income families can't come in and buy because of the constant spiral of taxes going up and up and up, you kill the living life of the city. You kill the new people trying to come in and raise families here.

Now, this city, I read in the paper, I think it was the President of a huge insurance company here, he said be proud of Newark. Well, the only people that are proud of Newark and trying to do something about Newark are these people sitting right here.

Gentlemen, it is almost like Alice in Wonderland. It is a fantasy that we should be here at this very hearing where the poor are one that are protesting. It should be the rich merchant that usually protests at a meeting like this when it comes to urban renewal. Here it is the people, the very ones that should benefit from it are protesting and they know they reason. Then the true reason for this whole thing. They were not given a chance to determine at a public hearing whether fifty acres or one hundred fifty acres should be used for a Medical School. They were only given a chance to say whether it is blighted or not and you boxed them in in a corner to make them fight for the blighted property.

Gentlemen, the only thing that is blighted in the city is the planning of this city. I had hoped to come here as somewhat of an arbitrator and speak softer words, but I have analyzed this through and through, and it is the position these people have been placed in, I have been placed in and so are you placed in it. You gentlemen have an opportunity right now. You will either go down as some of the

most famous men in the city if you make the decision to help these people. You can do it. It is all up to you. We need time. We need time to fight this thing and make that contract over again and at least with a referendum or something. We are trying to do it. We need the time and, Gentlemen, you can do it or else you can go down in history of this city as the slum planners. You can take your choice. There is no middle line.

Thank you for this opportunity.

MR. COCUZZA: Thank you very much for making your presentation, sir.

COLONEL HASSAN: Mr.Walter Dawkins, Mr. Chairman. He has a card there.

MR. COCUZZA: Where is the man who presented himself to speak a few moments ago? Is Mr. King here? Just a moment. Is Mrs. Scott here? Is Mrs. Scott here?

COLONEL HASSAN: Why don't you call on Mr. Dawkins?

MR. COCUZZA: Is Mrs. Scott here? Please come up here, Mrs. Scott.

A VOICE: A point of information, please. My information is this; I have heard you refer

to the record. I want to know from you, is this gentleman here that is stomping on this machine, is he the man that is keeping the official record here?

MR. COCUZZA: Yes, sir.

A VOICE: Was he sworn in?

MR. COCUZZA: It is not necessary.

A VOICE: Was he sworn in?

MR. COCUZZA: Please sit down.

A VOICE: I am going to sit here. This meeting is out of order. That man may be writing a lie.

MR. COCUZZA: What is your name, please?

MRS. SCOTT: I am going to cover something entirely different than what the other speakers have spoken about this evening. I am going to talk about economics.

I am a mother and I have a very large family. I find I am in dire straits over the educational system here in this city. My children go on split sessions. We don't have adequate teachers. We don't have adequate police protection. We don't have adequate anything at all. I feel that it is not wise economically to have this medical site built at this particular

time or anything in the near future that I can see before me. For some of the reasons that I will state and this is why. For one reason, the school situation, if I may choose this, happens to be so inadequate that the teachers don't speak as well as I do. The teachers cannot give me any proper information. We have clerks in the school that don't know anything about what is going on in the school. We have people there that are just there at present drawing salaries which the taxpayers are paying for and also which when they tear down the blighted area, as they so need to call it, we find that there will be no means coming from this blighted area, because the medical site will not be paying any taxes. So therefore, the people who are paying taxes will have to pay more taxes and this will not get them anything at all.

Now, we go down to police protection. I seem to find that the police department has a very difficult situation in getting any information that I have called in to them and related to the police department cars so therefore, they seem to need proper equipment,

which should be used by the taxpayers money rather than tearing down houses and not receiving any taxes at all from this area.

Then we go to the fire department; the fire department tears down more than they even start to when they come in for a fire, they tear down more of the property than they do anything else. You can't repair it. You cannot repair it so therefore it is blight. This is true blight because these houses just sit. They City does nothing about them. People go in and sleep or sit or whatever they go there for and do that, and therefore this is a problem to me, and my children, and I imagine in a great deal of the other citizens here in the city.

Now, the city administrators, they don't seem to make enough money as it is. With all the paying under the table, with all the paying any which way, this gentleman, I understand, doesn't live in this city and yet he is sitting before me, planning for my city, which I do not appreciate.

Recreational facilities, I see none. I know of none. We have a lot of places here where children cannot go. We have a lot of places that

there is nothing there to do. They should have places where they can go on swings. We should have pools and so forth. To cover that a little bit further, I am co-Chairman of the Educational Committee here in the Central Ward, here in the Central Ward and the South Ward. I find that the school, the South Side High School, for instance, is so outdated, rather that the government felt it was necessary to come here and investigate it. Nothing there was proper at all.

Additional burdens on remaining home owners, absentia, or otherwise. There are those who must vacate the premises and actually they have no place to go in this blighted area. One, because the Housing Authority decides who will and who cannot live in their buildings that are already ghettos as it is. They say that you make too much money or you don't make enough. You don't have the right family situation, yet they have built these buildings supposedly for low-income families. So, we find these people are living in areas that are overcrowded, the schools remain on possibly triple sessions. The teachers get worse,

the situation in general becomes worse as we go along.

These are some of the reasons that the Housing Authority deems that it is improper for you to live in these houses, one, because you don't make enough money; two, you make too much money; three, you can go into private housing which says if you have more than two children you cannot get in. Three, you are the wrong nationality when it comes to private housing. This wrong nationality, I think, you know, I think you know what it means. Your face is either black or you are Puerto Rican. It is either one or the other. If you are Italian, you go to the Italian neighborhood. I see very few people living in your area, Mr. Chairman, Forest Hill. I see very few colored people living in--Mr. D'Alessio, am I saying it right, in that area, he lives up there on Mt. Prospect Avenue. There are very few people here.

Thank you.

MR. COCUZZA: Ladies and Gentlemen, this hearing is now adjourned, and continued until 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, June 20th, 1967, in these council chambers. Thank you very much. Good night.

I, HOWARD A. RAPPAPORT, a Certified Shorthand Reporter and Notary Public of the State of New Jersey, do hereby certify the foregoing as a true and accurate transcript of the stenographic notes taken by me at the within Hearing.

HOWARD A. RAPPAPORT
Certified Shorthand Reporter
and Notary Public of the State
of New Jersey